

Tuesday, January 31, 1984

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Capt. *N. Gillespie*.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

The Hon. *A. J. Brummet* (Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing and Minister of Environment) tabled the following:

Surveys of Caribou, Moose and Wolves in Northern British Columbia in 1978-79 and 1979-80, Wildlife Management Section, Fish and Wildlife Branch;

Northern B.C. Wolf-Caribou Study—A Comparative Analysis of Caribou Calf Recruitment in an Experimental Wolf Removal and Control Area, Fish and Wildlife Branch;

Kechika Enhancement Project—Project Working Plan for January-March 1982;

Kechika Wolf Project—1982-83 Annual Progress Report, Fish and Wildlife Branch;

Muskwa Project—Draft Problem Analysis/Working Plan, Fish and Wildlife Branch.

On the motion of the Hon. *J. A. Nielsen*, the House adjourned at 11.59 a.m.

Tuesday, January 31, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *G. B. Gardom* (Minister of Intergovernmental Relations) tabled the Annual Report of the Ministry of Intergovernmental Relations, April 1, 1982 to March 31, 1983.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

34. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$172,432 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

35. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$56,128,016 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Government Financial Support, to 31st March 1984.

36. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$181,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Interest on the Public Debt, to 31st March 1984.

37. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$363,022 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Provincial Capital Commission, to 31st March 1984.

38. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$861,845 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Compensation Stabilization Program, to 31st March 1984.

39. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$95,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Contingencies (All Ministries), to 31st March 1984.

40. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$10 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Financing Transactions (Advances in respect of deferred property taxes pursuant to the *Land Tax Deferment Act*, and for statutory advances to local government and other entities in respect of property taxes in non-municipal areas collected on their behalf by the Ministry of Finance), to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again later today.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis*, it was *Resolved*—

In addition to the amount authorized under *Supply Act (No. 1), 1983* and *Supply Act (No. 2), 1983*, from and out of the consolidated revenue fund there may be paid and applied in the manner and at the times the Government may determine the sum of \$672 million towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the Province

for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984, and being substantially $\frac{1}{12}$ of the total amount of the votes of the main estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984, as laid before the Legislative Assembly at the present session.

The Committee reported the Resolution.
Report to be considered forthwith.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis*, the report of the Resolution from the Committee of Supply on January 31, 1984, be now taken as read and received, read a second time and agreed to.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

Order for Committee of Ways and Means called.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis*, it was *Ordered*, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to go into Committee of Ways and Means."

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis*, it was *Resolved*—

In addition to the amount authorized under *Supply Act (No. 1), 1983* and *Supply Act (No. 2), 1983*, from and out of the consolidated revenue fund there may be paid and applied in the manner and at the times the Government may determine the sum of \$672 million towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984, and being substantially $\frac{1}{12}$ of the total amount of the votes of the main estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984, as laid before the Legislative Assembly at the present session.

The Committee rose and reported the Resolution.
Resolution considered forthwith and adopted.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* presented Bill (No. 38) intituled *Supply Act (No. 3), 1983*.

The Speaker declared a short recess for distribution of the Bill.

Ordered, That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of the Bill.

Resolution reported.
Report considered forthwith and adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.

On the motion for the second reading of Bill (No. 38) intituled *Supply Act (No. 3)*, 1983, a debate arose.

Motion agreed to.

Bill (No. 38) read a second time.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis*, the Bill was referred to a Committee of the whole House to be considered forthwith.

Bill (No. 38) committed, reported complete without amendment.

By leave, Bill (No. 38) read a third time and passed.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

The Committee rose and reported progress.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

On the motion of the Hon. *J. A. Nielsen*, the House adjourned at 5.58 p.m.

Wednesday, February 1, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *B. Forsythe*.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Howard* asked leave, pursuant to Standing Order 35, to move adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the inability of the Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition to participate in debate in the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker stated he would take the matter under advisement.

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance) tabled: Response to the 1982 Report of the Auditor General, November 1983.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

9. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$185,732 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

10. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$65,728,532 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Administration and Support Services, to 31st March 1984.

11. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,894,887 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Superior and County Judiciary, to 31st March 1984.

12. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$9,078,651 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Provincial Judiciary, to 31st March 1984.

13. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$72,599,391 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Police Services, to 31st March 1984.

14. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$42,906,470 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Court Services, to 31st March 1984.

15. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$79,176,813 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Corrections, to 31st March 1984.

16. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$9,821,996 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Legal Services to Government, to 31st March 1984.

17. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$15,053,323 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Criminal Justice, to 31st March 1984.

18. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$33,660,320 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Attorney General, Statutory Services, Boards and Commissions, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

Mr. Speaker declared a short recess.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair—

Ian M. Horne, Q.C., Clerk of the House, read the title to the following Bill:

Bill (No. 38) *Supply Act (No. 3), 1983.*

His Honour was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give assent to the said Bill.

The said assent was announced by *Ian M. Horne*, Q.C., Clerk of the House, in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank Her Majesty's loyal subjects, doth accept their benevolence, and doth assent to this Bill."

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

Mr. Speaker delivered his reserved opinion as follows:

Honourable Members:

Earlier today the Honourable Member for Skeena sought to move adjournment of the House, pursuant to Standing Order 35, to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the inability of the Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition to participate in debate in the Committee of Supply.

The Honourable Member's application must fail on at least two grounds which are to be found in the 16th Edition of Sir Erskine May's Parliamentary Practice at page 370, and in the 20th Edition of Sir Erskine May at page 373.

In accordance with these cited authorities which have been followed in this House on numerous earlier occasions by a succession of Speakers, a matter raised under Standing Order 35 must be raised without delay and also must involve the administrative responsibility of the Government.

There has been a clear failure to raise the matter at the earliest possible opportunity and further, the Chair must observe that the matter would be one for the House itself to consider only after the appropriate action has been taken by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

K. W. DAVIDSON, *Speaker*

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the House adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

Thursday, February 2, 1984

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *L. M. Carlson*.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. W. Schroeder*, the House adjourned at 11.56 a.m.

Thursday, February 2, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

41. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$143,879 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Forests, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

42. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$192,472,471 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Forests, Forest and Range Management, to 31st March 1984.

43. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$50,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Forests, Fire Suppression Program, to 31st March 1984.

73. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$132,564 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Tourism, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

74. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$3,811,088 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Tourism, Operations Services, to 31st March 1984.

75. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,998,434 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Tourism, Marketing Services, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

Mr. *Passarell* rose on a matter of privilege relating to an answer given during Question Period by the Honourable Minister of Transportation and Highways.

Mr. Speaker stated he would take the matter under advisement.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the House adjourned at 5.50 p.m.

Friday, February 3, 1984

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *D. Noonan*.

The Hon. *A. V. Fraser* (Minister of Transportation and Highways) made a statement relating to an answer given during Question Period and a matter of privilege raised by the Member for Atlin on February 2.

Mr. *Blencoe* asked leave, pursuant to Standing Order 35, to move adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, information concerning the Conmac Stage Lines Ltd. accident at Mount Washington.

Mr. Speaker stated he would take the matter under advisement.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

The Committee rose and reported progress.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

Mr. Speaker delivered his reserved opinion as follows:

Honourable Members:

Earlier today the Second Member for Victoria rose under the provisions of Standing Order 35 and sought adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance and handed a written statement of the matter to the Chair, together with the appropriate motion he intended to move should a *prima facie* case be established.

The statement handed to the Speaker referred to "recent information", statements on "CBC Radio" and certain other "allegations".

The matter raised fails to qualify under the provisions of Standing Order 35 in that it would appear to rely heavily on media reports and accordingly is offered when facts are in dispute or before they are available. (*See May*, 16th Edition, page 370.)

The motion would also fail in that an ordinary parliamentary opportunity will occur shortly to discuss the subject matter of the Honourable Member's motion.

For the stated reasons, the Chair is unable to find the Member's application in order.

K. W. DAVIDSON, *Speaker*

5 Mr. *Stupich* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

With respect to the Gabriola Island Ferry—

1. For the year 1982 and to date in 1983, how many cars and how many passengers were carried and what was the annual net loss on this route?

2. What was the deficit or subsidy required to support the Gabriola Island ferry during these time periods?

3. What is the estimate of the magnitude of this cost or subsidy for the fiscal year 1983/84?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

40 Mr. *Passarell* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

1. Is there a cost overrun on the Greenville Bridge construction? If the answer is yes, what is the cost of the overrun?

2. What was the cause of the collapse of the new bridge which was under construction on Highway 37 between Meziadin and Bob Quinn?

3. Does the Minister have plans for highway construction during 1983/84 between Cassiar and Highway 37 junction? If the answer is yes, what are the plans?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

49 Mr. *Blencoe* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

With respect to the B.C. Steamship Company, operators of the Princess Marguerite—

1. What are the names and head office addresses of all companies, Canadian and foreign, which supply the services and commodities to the Princess Marguerite for the fiscal year 1982/83 and 1983/84 (to date)?

2. What is the detailed dollar value to each company, Canadian and foreign, which supplies the services and commodities to the Princess Marguerite for the fiscal year 1982/83 and 1983/84 (to date)?

3. What is the purchasing policy currently in use by the B.C. Steamship Company?

4. What is the complete listing of quotations received for all services and commodities from companies, Canadian and foreign, supplying the Princess Marguerite for the fiscal year 1982/83 and 1983/84 (to date)?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

67 Mr. *Reynolds* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

1. On July 27, did any members of the Public Service in the Ministry of Transportation and Highways leave their positions to attend a rally at the Parliament Buildings, and if so, how many?

2. In reference to No. 1, how many of these public servants will be paid for: (a) the whole day and (b) for part of the day?

3. Will any money be saved by Government as a result of No. 2, and if so, how much?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

85 Mr. *Reynolds* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

1. On August 10, did any members of the Public Service in the Ministry of Transportation and Highways leave their positions to attend a rally at Empire Stadium, and if so, how many?

2. In reference to No. 1, how many of these public servants will be paid for: (a) the whole day and (b) for part of the day?

3. Will any money be saved by Government as a result of No. 2, and if so, how much?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

88 Mr. *Passarell* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following question:

On recent highway construction on Highway 37, was the construction equipment used from Fort St. John? If so, and if similar equipment was available at Centreville and registered with the Dease Lake highway office, why was not local equipment hired instead of highway equipment from 400 miles east?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

89 Mr. *Passarell* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

With respect to the Atlin Airport—

1. What is the cost to date of the construction?

2. What contractors have been retained for construction of the project?

3. What amounts have been paid to date to the contractors on this project?

The Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. W. Schroeder*, the House adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Monday, February 6, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *G. Strain*.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

44. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$182,438 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Health, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

45. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$66,569,430 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Health, Management Operations, to 31st March 1984.

46. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$526,713,581 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Health, Medical Services Commission, to 31st March 1984.

47. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$158,801,506 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Health, Preventive and Community Health Care Services, to 31st March 1984.

48. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,697,781,892 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Health, Institutional Services, to 31st March 1984.

5. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$175,590 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

6. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$78,200,677 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Ministry Operations, to 31st March 1984.

7. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$263,285 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Milk Board, to 31st March 1984.

8. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$715,042 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Provincial Agricultural Land Commission, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance) tabled the Refunds and Remissions made under section 23, *Taxation (Rural Area) Act*, R.S.B.C. 1979, chapter 400, during the calendar year 1983.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the House adjourned at 5.54 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7, 1984

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *A. K. Young*.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again later today.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the House adjourned at 11.56 a.m.

Tuesday, February 7, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

76. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$200,936 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

77. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$9,035,729 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Administration and Services Department, to 31st March 1984.

78. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$468,289,850 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Highway Operations Department, to 31st March 1984.

79. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$10 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Hydro Development, Highways, to 31st March 1984.

80. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$25,400,685 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Motor Vehicle Department, to 31st March 1984.

81. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,258,273 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Motor Carrier Commission and Branch, to 31st March 1984.

82. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$5,721,481 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Transportation Policy Department, to 31st March 1984.

83. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$4,385,176 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Air Services Branch, to 31st March 1984.

84. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$54,822,700 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Crown Corporation Assistance, to 31st March 1984.

58. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$182,042 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Labour, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

59. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$56,023,326 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Labour, Ministry Operations, to 31st March 1984.

60. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$2,693,975 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Labour, Boards and Agencies, to 31st March 1984.

67. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$197,095 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

68. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$41,611,053 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Provincial Secretary and Government Services, to 31st March 1984.

69. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$17,861,018 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Government Information Services, to 31st March 1984.

70. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$17,843,737 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Culture, Heritage and Recreation, to 31st March 1984.

71. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$13,052,221 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Government Personnel, Pensions and Employee Benefits Administration, to 31st March 1984.

72. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$167,183,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Pensions and Employee Benefits Contributions, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

The Chairman further reported that in consideration of Vote 67 the Committee had divided, and recommended that the division be recorded in the Journals of the House.

By leave of the House, on the motion of Mr. *Cocke*, the Rules were suspended and it was *Ordered* that the said division be recorded as follows:

YEAS—25

	<i>Fraser, A. V.</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Richmond</i>
<i>Reid</i>	<i>McGeer</i>		
	<i>Phillips</i>	<i>Campbell</i>	
<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Curtis</i>	<i>Fraser, R. G.</i>	<i>McClelland</i>
<i>Segarty</i>		<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Schroeder</i>
<i>Ree</i>	<i>Smith</i>		
	<i>Gardom</i>	<i>Michael</i>	<i>Brummet</i>
<i>Kempf</i>	<i>Nielsen</i>	<i>Ritchie</i>	<i>Waterland</i>
<i>Davis</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>		

NAYS—15

<i>Blencoe</i>	<i>Lockstead</i>	<i>Sanford</i>	<i>Dailly</i>
	<i>Hanson</i>	<i>Nicolson</i>	<i>Cocke</i>
<i>Passarell</i>	<i>Brown</i>		<i>Howard</i>
<i>Mitchell</i>		<i>Lea</i>	
<i>Wallace</i>			
<i>Barnes</i>	<i>Gabelmann</i>		

By leave, Mr. *R. G. Fraser* presented Report No. 1 of the Select Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs and Housing.

REPORT NO. 1

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

February 6, 1984

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs and Housing, appointed on August 5, 1983, and directed on September 9, 1984 by Resolution of this Assembly to consider a proposal that the Province of British Columbia adopt a system of concurrent triennial elections for local and regional office, begs leave to report as follows:

The Committee recommends that elections for all local elective offices in the Province be held simultaneously once every three years. For the advantages of this proposal to be realized to the fullest extent such elections ought to be as co-ordinated and comprehensive as possible, since exceptions would quickly nullify the financial and other benefits to be gained through adoption of a triennial election system. The Committee further recommends that the *School Act* and the *Municipal Act* be amended accordingly; and that the fullest encouragement and co-operation be extended to the City of

Vancouver with respect to a corresponding amendment of the *Vancouver Charter*. It is the Committee's final recommendation that the triennial election plan be phased in over a three-year period so that election dates under the present system will naturally coincide with triennial elections under the new system. This method of implementation will minimize confusion and avoid the necessity of altering the term of anyone who has already been elected to office.

This Assembly charged the Committee "to consider the Resolution of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities of 1982 proposing triennial elections". That resolution called for concurrent triennial elections for municipal office. At their 1983 convention in Penticton, the UBCM endorsed an even stronger resolution calling for the election of "all local elected officials" to a three-year term of office "on the same day in November every three years". The essence of their main arguments in support of this proposal was the following: (a) that it would increase the interest, awareness and participation of the electorate in the sphere of local affairs; (b) that it would reduce the costly burden of annual elections upon the Provincial taxpayers; and (c) that it would increase the productivity of newly-elected officials by lengthening the period between their mastering the procedures of their new offices and having to seek re-election. The UBCM also pointed out that similar systems of local elections have been adopted throughout much of the rest of Canada and have worked well.

The Committee discovered that the broad support for this proposal indicated by the UBCM was shared by a number of others in the Province. Vancouver Mayor Michael Harcourt has asked Vancouver aldermen to endorse such a change. Provincial school boards indicated that they either actively endorsed the plan or had no preference one way or the other, while others stated that their desire to maintain the status quo was far outweighed by the importance of keeping their elections in step with those of the municipalities.

The Committee then turned its attention to the experience of other Canadian jurisdictions which employ identical or similar systems of local elections, and the reports were unanimously favourable. Alberta adopted uniform triennial elections in 1970, and the first election under the new act was held in 1971. Minister of Municipal Affairs Julian Koziak wrote to the Committee that "the triennial election system is generally well-accepted and, in our opinion, did create more interest and increase turnout at the polls". Claude Bennett, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, identified a number of advantages inherent in the Ontario system of concurrent triennial elections and concluded "My view is that a uniform term of office serves to heighten public awareness of and interest in local government." No other province in Canada employs a term of office of less than three years duration for its municipal officers except Saskatchewan; and there, while the mayors of towns and villages are elected every two years, the aldermen of those towns and villages serve for four years. All jurisdictions reported that although there had been some objection to the new system initially, the level of satisfaction was high once the system was in place.

Objections received by the Committee fell into five broad categories:

- that less frequent elections would render municipal officials less accountable and/or less responsive to the public;
- that the generally shorter time-frame governing municipal issues demands more frequent ratification of policy direction by the electorate;
- that an increasing degree of mobility in the populace and the demands of a longer term would discourage good candidates from seeking election;
- that the pursuit of provincial or federal office on one hand, and burnout and stress on the other would result in numerous resignations during the first 18 months in

office, which would necessitate costly by-elections in a triennial system that the current two-year/alternate-year system avoids; and

- that the election of an entirely new set of members to a municipal body would have disastrously disruptive effects upon the continuity and the quality of decision-making.

While the Committee acknowledges that these are legitimate concerns, it was also felt that there were compelling counter arguments. With respect to the first two objections, the Committee would respond that frequent elections involving only a tiny fraction of the electorate are not, in themselves, a guarantee of greater accountability or a higher degree of popular support. Experience elsewhere has demonstrated that less frequent elections will result in more interest, more participation, and more satisfaction among local voters. With respect to the third point, it may be observed that no jurisdiction that has adopted triennial municipal elections reported a noticeable drop in the calibre of candidates for office or an increase in the number of acclamations. The fourth item, concerning the need for by-elections, is quite likely more anticipated than real; certainly the two-year term is not immune from the need for by-elections from time to time. Again, it is significant that where triennial elections have been adopted this has not posed a perceptible problem. Finally, while it may be true that a total turnover in the membership of a municipal body could create problems in continuity and/or in the level of that body's grasp upon significant issues, but that is a factor that the public is fully capable of assessing. In 1983, the rate of re-election of incumbents holding municipal office in British Columbia was approximately 60 per cent, including retirees—suggesting a degree of stability which did not appear to be greatly altered in jurisdictions adopting a triennial system.

Further, the Committee found the following arguments in favour of triennial elections most compelling:

- less frequent, comprehensive elections serve to broaden popular awareness, interest and participation *vis-à-vis* municipal affairs, making the system more democratic and accountable;
- a longer term of office allows municipal politicians to adopt a decision-making horizon measured in years instead of months;
- the proportion of the municipal politician's time spent in learning how to do the job and running for re-election is reduced and the proportion of productive time is correspondingly increased;
- the greater expertise and broader perspective that occur as a consequence of these factors increase the elected official's ability to provide knowledgeable direction of municipal bureaucracies, and the result again is an increase in democracy and accountability as decision- and policy-making are more effectively placed in the hands of those whom the public has elected; and finally
- the adoption of a system of concurrent triennial elections will result in savings to both the taxpayer, who must bear the cost of annual elections, and to the candidates, who need contest fewer elections and will thus incur lower campaign costs.

The Committee strongly urges that implementation of a system of triennial elections be done on the basis of a so-called rolling enlistment of municipal offices as the date of election under the old system coincides with the date of the new triennial system. The chart appended to the end of this report represents this option graphically. There would be minor variations in the numbers affected each year if implementation were to be delayed, but the principle remains unchanged; three years after the decision is made to proceed with triennial elections, all municipal offices will be up for re-election con-

currently, no official's term of office need be shortened by legislative fiat, and the necessity for making explanations of both a new system and a complicated transition plan to electoral officials and the public will be greatly reduced. In the opinion of the Committee, this is not only the least disruptive approach to implementation from the perspective of the affected local bodies, but is likely the least expensive as well in view of its very modest requirement for dissemination of public information or retraining of electoral administrators.

In conclusion, the Committee wishes to reiterate its strong support for the adoption of the recommendations of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities with respect to the establishment of a system of concurrent, triennial elections for all locally elected offices including Regional District electoral area directors, school, park and other trustees. To this end, the Committee recommends changes be made as quickly as may be feasible to the relevant legislation. The Committee subscribes to the belief that these changes will improve the accountability of locally elected bodies, aid local officials in developing their expertise and judgement, raise the level of public interest and participation in local affairs, and generally strengthen the democratic process upon which every level of government in British Columbia—local, provincial and federal—is founded.

As Chairman, I would like to add a note of thanks to all those who made submission to this Committee, and especially to the members of the Committee: Mrs. *Johnston*, Messrs. *Parks*, *Pelton*, *Reid*, the Hon. *W. S. Ritchie*, Messrs. *Blencoe*, *Passarell* and *Rose*, for the time, effort and co-operation that made this report possible.

Respectfully submitted.

R. G. FRASER, *Chairman*

APPENDIX A IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The recommended schedule for implementation of the three-year term and triennial election is based on the objectives of:

- implementing the system as soon as possible;
- minimizing the disruptions to current election terms; and
- phasing in, so all local elections are held in the same year.

Implementation of the Three-Year Term and Triennial Elections

	Number of Municipalities	November				
		1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Municipalities with Annual Elections						
1983 Mayoralty Year	92	X	(2)	X	(2)	X
1984 Aldermen Only	92		X	(3)		X
1984 Mayoralty Year	30		X	(3)		X
1983 Aldermen Only	30	X	(2)	X	(2)	X
Municipality with Biennial Elections						
Odd Years	11	X	(2)	X	(2)	X
Even Years	8		X	(3)		X
Regional Districts with Annual Elections						
	20	X	(2)	X	(2)	X
	20		X	(3)		X
Regional Districts with Biennial Elections						
	8	X	(2)	X	(2)	X

NOTE: X denotes an election and the bracketed figure the length of the term.

(This chart provided courtesy of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.)

The report was taken as read and received.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the House adjourned at 5.48 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Major *R. Pell*.

The Hon. *G. B. Gardom* (Minister of Intergovernmental Relations) advised the House of the death of the Honourable James Sinclair, M.P., P.C., formerly Minister of Fisheries. Mr. Speaker stated that he would convey to the Sinclair family the condolences and sympathy of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *T. M. Waterland* (Minister of Forests) tabled the Annual Report of the Ministry of Forests, 1982/83.

Mrs. *Dailly* tabled a copy of a memorandum of the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital dated October 24, 1983.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

27. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$173,868 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

28. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$20,353,252 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Resource Management Program, to 31st March 1984.

29. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,555,257 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, British Columbia Utilities Commission, to 31st March 1984.

30. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$3,500,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Fort Nelson Indian Band Mineral Revenue Sharing Agreement, to 31st March 1984.

56. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$117,775 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Intergovernmental Relations, Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

57. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$2,305,312 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Intergovernmental Relations, Intergovernmental Relations, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

The Chairman further reported that in consideration of Vote 56 the Committee had divided, and recommended that the division be recorded in the Journals of the House.

By leave of the House, on the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the Rules were suspended and it was *Ordered* that the said division be recorded as follows:

YEAS—32

<i>Parks</i>	<i>Fraser, A. V.</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Richmond</i>
<i>Reid</i>	<i>McGeer</i>		<i>Hewitt</i>
<i>Reynolds</i>	<i>Phillips</i>	<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Heinrich</i>
<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Curtis</i>	<i>Fraser, R. G.</i>	<i>McClelland</i>
<i>Segarty</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Schroeder</i>
<i>Ree</i>	<i>Smith</i>		<i>Rogers</i>
<i>Mowat</i>	<i>Gardom</i>	<i>Michael</i>	<i>Brummet</i>
<i>Kempf</i>	<i>Nielsen</i>	<i>Ritchie</i>	<i>Waterland</i>
<i>Davis</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>		

NAYS—14

<i>Blencoe</i>	<i>Lockstead</i>	<i>Sanford</i>	<i>Dailly</i>
<i>Rose</i>	<i>Hanson</i>	<i>Nicolson</i>	<i>Cocke</i>
<i>Passarell</i>			<i>Howard</i>
<i>Mitchell</i>			
<i>Wallace</i>			
<i>Barnes</i>	<i>Gabelmann</i>		

By leave, Mr. *Blencoe* presented a report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Economic Affairs.

On the motion of Mr. *Blencoe* that the report be read and received, a debate arose, which was, on the motion of Mr. *Reynolds*, adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *J. A. Nielsen* (Minister of Health) tabled the 1982 Annual Report of the Ministry of Health.

The Hon. *B. R. D. Smith* (Attorney General) tabled the following:

The B.C. Police Commission Annual Report, 1982/83.

British Columbia Board of Parole Annual Report, March 31, 1983.

Annual Report, Corrections Branch, Ministry of Attorney General, 1982/83.

Legal Services Society of British Columbia Annual Report, April 1, 1982 to March 31, 1983.

48 The Hon. *J. Davis* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services the following questions:

For each of the fiscal years ended March 31, 1976 to March 31, 1983—

1. How many people were employed, full time and part time (or full time equivalent) in the various Provincial ministries?

2. How many people were employed, full time and part time (or full time equivalent) in the Provincial Crown corporations?

The Hon. the Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services stated that, in his opinion, the reply should be in the form of a Return and that he had no objection to laying such Return upon the table of the House, and thereupon presented such Return.

On the motion of the Hon. *J. A. Nielsen*, the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

Thursday, February 9, 1984

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. Van Druten*.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

85. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$119,840 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Universities, Science and Communications: Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

86. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$8,641,343 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Universities, Science and Communications: Ministry Operations, to 31st March 1984.

87. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$27,226,886 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Universities, Science and Communications: Government Telecommunication Services, to 31st March 1984.

88. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$353,394,486 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Universities, Science and Communications: Universities, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.
Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. W. Schroeder*, the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

Thursday, February 9, 1984

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *A. J. Brummet* (Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing and Minister of Environment) tabled a document entitled Chlorophenate Wood Protection, Recommendations for Design and Operation.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

21. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$207,010 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Education: Minister's Office, to 31st March 1984.

22. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$24,383,227 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Education: Management Operations and Educational Finance, to 31st March 1984.

23. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,040,531,959 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Education: Public Schools Education, to 31st March 1984.

24. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$319,463,135 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Education: Post-Secondary Colleges and Institutes, to 31st March 1984.

25. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$22,117,339 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Education: Independent Schools, to 31st March 1984.

26. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$10 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Education: Financing Transactions—Advances *re* Rural Residential School Property Tax, to 31st March 1984.

4. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$660,799 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Premier's Office: Premier's Office, to 31st March 1984.

3. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$1,618,744 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ombudsman: Office of the Ombudsman, to 31st March 1984.

2. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$3,151,560 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Auditor General: Auditor General, to 31st March 1984.

1. *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$7,610,112 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Legislation: Legislation, to 31st March 1984.

The Committee reported the Resolutions.

Report to be considered forthwith.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance), the reports of Resolutions from the Committee of Supply on October 19, 20, 1983; January 31, February 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1984, were taken as read and received.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance), the Rules were suspended and the Resolutions from the Committee of Supply were read a second time, taken as read, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolutions.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance), it was *Ordered*—
That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to go into Committee of Ways and Means.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance), that towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Public Service of the Province, there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding \$8,055,771,830 towards defraying the charges and expenses of the Public Service of the Province, not otherwise provided for, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984, the sum to include that authorized to be paid under section 1 (a) of the *Supply Act (No. 1), 1983*, section 1 of the *Supply Act (No. 2), 1983* and section 1 of the *Supply Act (No. 3), 1983*.

On the motion of the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance), Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present Bill No. 39 intituled "*Supply Act (No. 4), 1983*."

The Committee rose and reported the Resolution.
Resolution read a second time, taken as read, and agreed to.

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Finance) presented Bill (No. 39) intituled *Supply Act, No. 4, 1983*.

Ordered that the said Bill be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House recommending the introduction of Bill (No. 39) intituled *Supply Act, No. 4, 1983*.

Resolution and Bill reported.
Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the Bill read a second time.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the Bill referred to a Committee of the Whole House to be considered forthwith.

The Bill was committed, reported complete without amendment, and, by leave, the Rules were suspended and the Bill *Ordered* to be read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Speaker declared a short recess.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair—

Ian M. Horne, Q.C., Clerk of the House, read the title to the following Bill:

Bill (No. 39) *Supply Act (No. 4), 1983*.

His Honour was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give assent to the said Bill.

The said assent was announced by *Ian M. Horne, Q.C.*, Clerk of the House, in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank Her Majesty's loyal subjects, doth accept their benevolence, and doth assent to this Bill."

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

In closing this first session of the Thirty-third Parliament, I must say I was most impressed with the commitment you showed in your deliberations and with your determination that all segments of our society should share in resolving our current difficulties.

When you assembled here June 23 last to shoulder the burden of our people's concerns, you were well aware that yours would not be a simple task. We are not living through simple times. There were difficult decisions to be reached.

My Government was faced with the most severe recession since the 1930's. It had seen revenues plummet and remain depressed during a time when my Government most wanted to help its people weather the economic storm.

In difficult economic times of the past, our people looked to government for guidance — for a course to follow that would permit them, through their own fortitude, to continue enjoying the benefits they had worked so hard to realize. That guidance has been provided through the many essential services supplied by my Government. But those services cease to be of value when their cost threatens to impair our people's expectations and their ability to pay for the secure way of life they have earned.

Faced with this double edged problem of continuing to supply services at an affordable cost during a period of depressed revenues, yours was indeed a formidable task.

When my Government put before you certain proposals designed to ease the economic pressure on our people, it was fully aware that — in some segments of our provincial community — those measures would be troubling. Those proposals were not arrived at easily or without agony by my Government.

It is the role of government to lead, and having set its course and defined its goal, to move forward in its determination to better the lot of our people. And while faced with outspoken opponents to its legislative program my Government has been encouraged by the majority of British Columbians who wished to see those proposals implemented.

Through that period our people were still able to take comfort in the knowledge that unlike some countries of the world, our free democratic system encourages independent thought and open debate. We treasure that as a jewel. We would have it no other way. It is one of our greatest strengths.

And while that strength did at times upset the harmony of your deliberations it did, also, through that free exercise of independent thought and the ability to understand the aspirations of others, bring about solutions.

While you were in this Chamber exercising those precious rights without fear of reprisal for your individual beliefs, we all watched with horror as the details of a frightful and barbaric incident in the skies, which took 269 innocent lives, unfolded before us. A terrifying example of disdain for human rights and human life.

It brought into sharp focus the events of some months earlier as we witnessed the freedom with which our Sovereign, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, were able to visit with us without fear as they walked among and talked with our people.

And when Her Majesty invited the World to participate in Expo 86, we were reminded of our fortunate place as Canadians in the roster of nations.

You will be returning to this Chamber soon once again to take up the mantle of leadership of our people. My Government will again be bringing before you measures designed to accelerate a recovery from the economic problems we face, and to ease the constraints which have been put upon our people through conditions over which it has no control.

There will no doubt be periods of misunderstanding, of disagreement and of stress for you all. But I am confident from my understanding of our people's history of outstanding achievement and fierce pride that you will collectively resolve these problems and arrive at the best possible solution for the overall benefit of our Province.

Honourable Members, I now relieve you of your legislative duties, and I trust the blessing of Divine Providence will be with you as you shortly resume those responsibilities.

The Hon. *J. R. Chabot* (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services) then said:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's will and pleasure that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until 2 o'clock p.m. Monday next, and this Provincial Legislative Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

43 Mr. *Passarell* asked the Hon. the Attorney General the following question:

In 1975/76, the Social Credit Government gave a commitment to the Nishga regarding land claims. Has the Attorney General set a date to commence land claim negotiations with the Nishga? If so, what is that date?

The Hon. *B. R. D. Smith* replied as follows:

"In accordance with s. 91 (24) of the *British North America Act*, Canada has responsibility for Indians and lands reserved for Indians. The negotiation of Indian claims is therefore, principally a federal responsibility. Canada announced its intention to seek negotiated resolution of Indian claims in 1973. At that time it sought the participation of the Government of British Columbia. However, the Government of the day refused to participate. On January 12, 1976 the Government of British Columbia was represented at the Ministerial level at a meeting in New Aiyansh. At that time the Province agreed to discuss the elements of the Nishga claim. At least 27 tripartite meetings have been held since March of 1976. A representative of the Government of British Columbia chaired four of those meetings at the invitation of the other parties."

45 Ms. *Brown* asked the Hon. the Attorney General the following questions:

1. What were the total expenditures on the "CounterAttack" program from its inception to March 31, 1983?

2. For the amount listed in reply to No. 1, what is the breakdown of these expenditures for the following categories: (a) administration and planning, (b) production, (c) purchase of advertising, and (d) others, please specify?

3. What is the proposed expenditure on the "CounterAttack" program for the 1983/84 fiscal year?

The Hon. *B. R. D. Smith* replied as follows:

"1.

Fiscal Year	Total \$
77/78	573,532
78/79	397,076
79/80	770,022
80/81	620,660
81/82	622,456
82/83	235,920
Total to March 31, 1983	<u>3,259,666</u>

"2.

	\$	\$	
(a) Administration and Planning	964,982	964,982	
(b) Production	233,204	233,204	
(c) Advertising	1,334,788	1,334,788	
(d) Others			
BATmobiles, purchase	172,875		
operation	84,465		
Community grants/programs	99,608		
School programs	300,513		
Conferences, workshops	42,201		
Library/Films	15,151		
Miscellaneous	1,782		
Survey of night drivers	<u>10,097</u>		
	726,693	<u>726,693</u>	<u>3,259,666</u>

"3. Proposed Expenditure for CounterAttack—
Fiscal Year 1983/84:

Ministry of Attorney General	204,825	204,825"
------------------------------------	---------	----------

52 Mr. *Reynolds* asked the Hon. the Attorney General the following questions:

1. On July 27, did any members of the Public Service in the Ministry of Attorney General leave their positions to attend a rally at the Parliament Buildings, and if so, how many?

2. In reference to No. 1, how many of these public servants will be paid for: (a) the whole day and (b) for part of the day?

3. Will any money be saved by Government as a result of No. 2, and if so, how much?

The Hon. *B. R. D. Smith* replied as follows:

"There were 44 staff members from the Ministry of Attorney General who were absent from work on July 27 for the whole or part of the day. The staff members were absent from work for a total 64 hours, resulting in a saving of approximately \$700."

70 Mr. *Reynolds* asked the Hon. the Attorney General the following questions:

1. On August 10, did any members of the Public Service in the Ministry of Attorney General leave their positions to attend a rally at Empire Stadium, and if so, how many?

2. In reference to No. 1, how many of these public servants will be paid for: (a) the whole day and (b) for part of the day?

3. Will any money be saved by Government as a result of No. 2, and if so, how much?

The Hon. *B. R. D. Smith* replied as follows:

“There were 836 Lower Mainland staff members of the Ministry of Attorney General who were absent from work on August 10 for the whole or part of the day. The total salary saving represented by this figure is \$74,438.”

The House prorogued at 5.30 p.m.

K. W. DAVIDSON, *Speaker*

PROCLAMATION

[L.S.]

R. G. ROGERS
Lieutenant Governor

CANADA: PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To Our Faithful Members Elected to Serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia, at Our City of Victoria—GREETING

A PROCLAMATION

B. R. D. SMITH *Attorney General* { KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations and taking into consideration the ease and convenience of Our Loving subjects, We have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Executive Council of the Province of British Columbia, to hereby prorogue Our said Legislature of Parliament on Thursday the ninth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four at Our City of Victoria.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, the Honourable ROBERT GORDON ROGERS, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this ninth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four and in the thirty-third year of Our Reign.

By Command.

J. R. CHABOT
*Provincial Secretary and Minister of
Government Services*